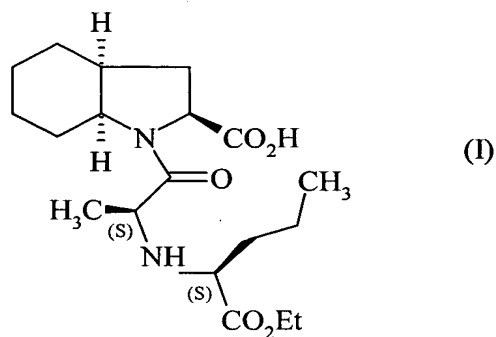


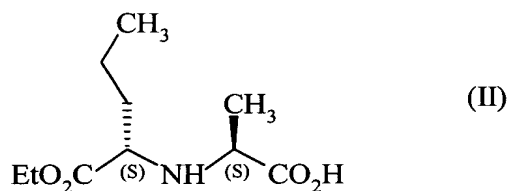
LISTING OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-4 (CANCELED)

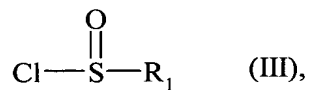
5. (NEW) A process for the synthesis of perindopril of formula (I) :



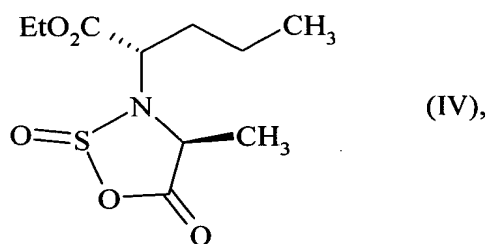
and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof ,
wherein a compound of formula (II) :



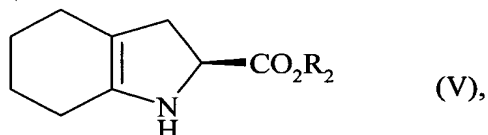
is reacted with a compound of formula (III) :



10 wherein R₁ represents imidazolyl, benzimidazolyl or tetrazolyl,
to yield a compound of formula (IV) :



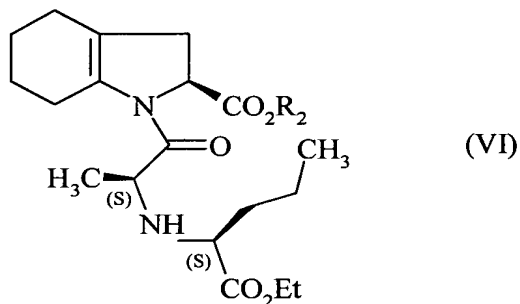
which is reacted with a compound of formula (V) :



wherein R₂ represents hydrogen, benzyl or linear or branched (C₁-C₆)alkyl,

5 or an addition salt thereof with a mineral or organic acid,

to yield, after isolation, a compound of formula (VI) :



which is hydrogenated in the presence of a catalyst,

10 under a hydrogen pressure of from 1 to 30 bars, to yield, after deprotection of the acid function where necessary, perindopril of formula (I), which is converted, if desired, into a pharmaceutically acceptable salt.

6. (NEW) The process of Claim 5, wherein the hydrogen pressure in the hydrogenation reaction is from 1 to 10 bars.

7. (NEW) The process of Claim 5, wherein the catalyst is selected from palladium, platinum, rhodium and nickel.
 8. (NEW) The process of Claim 5 for the synthesis of perindopril in the form of its tert-butylamine salt.
- 5